

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-03 TRSE-00 EB-07 /021 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TECH, IS

SUBJ: SCIENCE: INDUSTRIAL R&D PROGRAM

REF: STATE 213338

1. SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTED BY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF ISRAELI INDUSTRY CENTER FOR R&D (IICRD) TO PREPARE DRAFT ISRAELI PROPOSAL HAS MET ONLY TWICE, WITH NEXT MEETING SEPT 17. SCIATT, BY INVITATION, ATTENDED BOTH MEETINGS TO STIMULATE ACTION AND FOCUS DEBATE. HE SUGGESTED OUTLINE OF MODEL FOR COOPERATIVE R&D PROGRAM, MAKING CLEAR HIS SUGGESTION WAS PERSONAL AND NOT OFFICIAL. SUGGESTED MODEL, WHICH IN EARLY STAGES OF DRAFT WITH MANY ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED, BASICALLY RECOMMENDS: BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) WITH EQUAL COMPLEMENT OF U.S. AND ISRAELI GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED MEMBERS; AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SELECTION COMMITTEE (IRSC) WITH EQUAL COMPLEMENT OF U.S. AND ISRAELI MEMBERS FROM INDUSTRY, APPROVED BY BOG, BUT NOMINATED BY AN ADVISORY COUNCIL WHICH HAS OPEN MEMBERSHIP FOR ALL INDUSTRY IN BOTH COUNTRIES, I.E., IRI, IICRD, GOLDMAN'S GROUP, ETC. IRSC WOULD RECEIVE AND REVIEW PROPOSALS, ESTABLISH CRITERIA AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOG; SECRETARIAT FOR BOG, WHICH WOULD ADMINISTRATIVELY REVIEW PROPOSALS FOR COMPLETENESS AND MONITOR FINANCES, AND WHICH COULD BE HOUSED IN PRESENT BSF OR IN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY WHERE PROFESSOR YAACOV'S EXISTING STAFF ALREADY PERFORMS SIMILAR FUNCTIONS; ADVISORY COUNCIL WHICH IN ADDITION TO SELECTING NOMINEES FOR IRSC WOULD PROMOTE

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EXCHANGE VISITS AND OTHER COOPERATIVE PROJECTS INCLUDING

SEMINARS, SURVEYS, AND OTHER ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES.

2. THIS IS THUMBNAIL SKETCH OF DRAFT PROPOSAL, WHICH WILL REQUIRE REVIEW BY FULL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE AND ISRAELI GOVERNMENT BEFORE BEING SUBMITTED TO USG FOR CONSIDERATION. YAACOV, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, LEFT ISRAEL MID AUGUST SO HE MAY BE UNAWARE OF SUBCOMMITTEE EFFORTS. CONSEQUENTLY, SUGGEST YOU USE THIS INFORMATION ONLY IF YAACOV HAS BEEN BRIEFED PRIOR MEETING AND IS AGREEABLE TO DISCUSS SUBJECT.

3. UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME IF COMMITTEE WILL MAKE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS ON FUNDING LEVEL REQUIRED, BUT IN ANY EVENT THIS IS MATTER FOR NEGOTIATION AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL.

4. EMBASSY STILL OF OPINION THERE IS A NEED TO GO SLOW AS ISRAELIS FAR FROM BEING CLEAR IN THEIR OWN MINDS AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF INDUSTRIAL R&D PROGRAM WHICH WOULD MEET OUR MUTUAL COOPERATIVE NEEDS.
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